

among the Indians of the Mohawk Valley, and until his death, he zealously exerted himself for the education and conversion of the Indian tribes. He also was most zealous in promoting the permanent establishment of the Church of England in America by the endowment of an episcopate. For this purpose he conveyed to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel 20,000 acres of land in the neighborhood of Schenectady; and on the 10th of December, 1768, he wrote as follows on the subject: "We cannot have a clergy here without an Episcopate; and this want, as it has occasioned *many* to embrace *other* persuasions, will oblige *greater numbers* to follow their example."¹

In the year 1748 the people of New England were roused to an interest in missions to the Iroquois. Messrs. Spencer, Woodbridge and Hawley visited the Mohawks that same year. Spencer remained but a short time, and it is recorded of him that he could not surmount the difficulties he encountered.

Four years later, in the "Old South Meeting House", Boston, the Rev. Gideon Hawley was publicly set apart to the work of an evangelist among the Western Indians. He had a preliminary course in training for Indian work at Stockbridge under Jonathan Edwards. A few Iroquois families from the Mohawk, Oneida and Tuscarora tribes were in the habit of coming to Stockbridge for the sake of Christian knowledge and the schooling of their children. Hawley was their teacher, and preached to them on Sundays. The same year, 1752, he made a short visit to the Mohawk country to look over the work. On his return, in view of the strong desire of the Mohawks for Christian instruction, it was agreed that Hawley and Timothy Woodbridge should set out for the Indian country. They visited Sir William Johnson at his residence on the Mohawk River, in May, 1753, and secured his patronage, which on account of his great influence with the Indians was considered very important; but afterwards, for some reason, probably at Johnson's suggestion, they turned southward into the country of the Tuscaroras. At Oughquauga on the Susquehanna River, a little distance north of the pres-

¹Hawkins' Missions of the Church of England, 293, 320, 327.